

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



---

Contact:  
Jim Menard, Area Management Biologist  
Hilary Upicksoun, Salmon Catch Monitor  
Phone: (907) 443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271  
Fax: (907) 443-5893

Nome Area Office  
P.O. Box 1148  
Nome, Alaska 99762  
Date Issued: 8/18/2013  
Time: 1:00 p.m.

**2013 Kotzebue News Release #32  
KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING**

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 3 hours from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Sunday, August 18 in the Kotzebue District.

Catch during Friday night's 3-hour opening was 8,385 chum salmon by 38 permit holders. The catch was above average for the time fished. The past week had the best harvest of the season with Kotzebue commercial salmon permit holders harvesting over 70,000 chum salmon. The commercial harvest to date is over 266,000 chum salmon and has exceeded the department prediction of a harvest of 225,000 to 250,000 chum salmon for 2013.

The record harvest in the 2000s was in 2010 when 270,343 chum salmon were harvested and this year's harvest should easily exceed that year.

Kobuk River test fish catch index ranks second best in the 21-year project history, but is expected to exceed the record test fish catch of 1996 in the next few days.

Continuing with short duration commercial fishing periods should not jeopardize subsistence opportunity or escapement.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.